

# \$160,000 Opening Verse

**18<sup>th</sup> Running – 2023 (Spring Meet)**  
**Overnight Stakes for 4-Year-Olds & Up at One Mile on Matt Winn Turf Course at Churchill Downs**  
**Stakes Record – 1:34.69, Mr Cub (2018)**  
**Course Record – 1:33.78, Jaggery John (1995)**

**Name Origin:** Race named for Opening Verse, who won the Grade III Early Times Turf Classic (now named the Woodford Reserve Turf Classic) in 1991 and then returned to Churchill Downs later that year to pull off a major upset in the Breeders' Cup Mile. The win marked the second stakes win over the Matt Winn Turf Course for the Allen Paulson-owned and Richard Lundy-trained horse, who retired with 10 wins in 30 starts and \$1.6 million in earnings.

| Year (Race No.)<br>Dis. (Starters)                   | Winner (Age/Sex)<br>Owner(s)  | Jockey (Weight)<br>Trainer                            | Second<br>Third                         | Time (Condition)<br>Odds (Margin)                 | Sire<br>Bred (Color)                      | Gross Purse-Gr.<br>Winner's Share-# |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>2022-May 5 (8th)</b><br>1 M (T) (7)               | <b>Gray's Fable (7g)</b><br>Steve Goldfine, Kari Provost & Jeff Zlonis              | Luis Saez (118)<br>Roger Attfield                     | Hidden Stash<br>Mr Dumas*               | 1:36.22 (firm)<br>2.20-1 (head)                   | Gio Ponti<br>Kentucky (Gr or Ro.)         | \$157,400<br>\$96,722—17            |
| <b>2021-April 29 (8th)</b><br>1 M (T) (8)            | <b>Set Piece-GB (5g)*</b><br>Juddmonte  | <b>Florent Geroux (118)</b><br>Brad Cox               | Snapper Sinclair<br>Gray's Fable        | 1:38.26 (good)<br>2.90-1 (1 ¼ lengths)            | Dansili-GB<br>Great Britain (Dk B or Br.) | \$105,734<br>\$54,126—16            |
| <b>2020-Sept 3 (8th)</b><br>1 M (Off Turf) (4)       | <b>Crafty Daddy (4g)</b><br>Lucky Seven Stable                                      | <b>Brian Hernandez Jr. (120)</b><br>Kenny McPeck      | Captivating Moon*<br>Renaissance Frolic | 1:34.10 (fast)<br>3.90-1 (head)                   | Scat Daddy<br>Kentucky (Dk B or Br.)      | \$112,505<br>\$71,730—15            |
| <b>2019-May 2 (8th)</b><br>1 M (T) (10)              | <b>Siem Riep (5g)</b><br>Marc Detampel  | James Graham (122)<br>Ben Colebrook                   | Hembree<br>Ballagh Rocks                | 1:35.07 (firm)<br>35.00-1 (1 ½ lengths)           | Tapit<br>Kentucky (Ch.)                   | \$116,300<br>\$68,776—14            |
| <b>2018-May 3 (8th)</b><br>1 M (T) (9)               | <b>Mr Cub (4g)*</b><br>Turf Stable II LLC (Rusty Jones)                             | Chris Landeros (122)<br><b>Ian Wilkes</b>             | First Premio<br>Flatlined               | <b>1:34.69</b> (firm)<br>2.40-1 (1 ¼ lengths)     | Artie Schiller<br>Kentucky (B.)           | \$71,600<br>\$42,960—13             |
| <b>2017-May 4 (9th)</b><br>1 M (T) (7)               | <b>Pleuven-FR (6g)*</b><br>Nelson McMakin   | <b>Corey Lanerie (122)</b><br>Phil Sims               | Take the Stand-ARG<br>Thatcher Street   | 1:36.15 (good)<br>2.40-1 (2 ½ lengths)            | Turtle Bowl-IRE<br>France (Dk B or Br.)   | \$56,340<br>\$32,993—12             |
| <b>2016-May 21 (11th)</b><br>1 M (T) (9)             | <b>Thatcher Street (5g)</b><br>Randy Bloch, Phil Milner, John Seiler & Amnietan LLC | <b>Brian Hernandez Jr. (122)</b><br><b>Ian Wilkes</b> | Pleuven-FR<br>Aztec Brave (FR)          | 1:38.22 (good)<br>4.60-1 (½ length)               | Street Sense<br>Kentucky (B.)             | \$62,640<br>\$39,780—11             |
| <b>2015-May 30 (9th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (8)         | <b>The Pizza Man (6g)*</b><br>Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc.                           | <b>Florent Geroux (123)</b><br>Roger Brueggemann      | Frac Daddy<br>Departing                 | 1:43.29 (firm)<br>2.10-1 (2 ½ lengths)            | English Channel<br>Illinois (B.)          | \$58,450<br>\$32,400—10             |
| <b>2014-May 31 (10th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (7)        | <b>Regally Ready (7g)*</b><br>Vinery Stables LLC                                    | Rosie Napravnik (123)<br><b>Steve Asmussen</b>        | Villandry<br>Paris Vegas                | 1:42.26 (firm)<br>0.60-1 (¾ length)               | More Than Ready<br>Kentucky (Ch.)         | \$64,907<br>\$39,660—9              |
| <b>2013-June 1 (10th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (Off Turf) (4) | <b>Silver Max (4c)</b><br>Mark Bacon & Dana Wells                                   | Robby Albarado (123)<br><b>Dale Romans</b>            | Daddy Nose Best<br>Cease *              | 1:44.34 (sloppy)<br>1.60-1 ( <b>9 ½ lengths</b> ) | Badge of Silver<br>Kentucky (B.)          | \$62,415<br>\$39,420—8              |
| <b>2012-June 9 (5th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (6)         | <b>Guys Reward (5h)</b><br>Michael J. Bruder  | <b>Corey Lanerie (123)</b><br><b>Dale Romans</b>      | Seruni*<br>Scotus                       | 1:41.98 (firm)<br>2.20-1 (1/2 length)             | Grand Reward<br>Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.)  | \$73,392<br>\$44,820—7              |
| <b>2011-June 17 (4th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (5)        | <b>Turallure (4c)*</b><br>Four D Stable   | Julien Leparoux (119)<br>Charlie LoPresti             | Tajaaweed<br>Kingofthebluegrass         | 1:40.41 (firm)<br>1.20-1 (1 length)               | Wando<br>Kentucky (Gr. or R.)             | \$74,874<br>\$46,380—6              |
| <b>2009-10</b>                                       | <b>No Runnings</b>  |   |   |   |   |                                     |
| <b>2008-May 31 (9th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (10)        | <b>Inca King (4g)*</b><br>Heiligbrodt Racing Stable                                 | Shaun Bridgmohan (116)<br><b>Steve Asmussen</b>       | Seaside Retreat<br>Corrupt              | 1:42.39 (firm)<br>3.60-1 (2 ¼ lengths)            | Sir Cat<br>Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.)       | \$119,700<br>\$70,503—5             |
| <b>2007-June 2 (8th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (4)         | <b>Therecomesatiger (5g)</b><br>Charles R. Patton                                   | Jamie Theriot (116)<br>Tom Proctor                    | Icy Atlantic*<br>Go Between             | 1:43.64 (firm)<br><b>4.10-1</b> (1/2 length)      | Tiger Ridge<br>Florida (Dk. B. or Br.)    | \$105,245<br>\$67,270—4             |
| <b>2006-June 3 (8th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (5)         | <b>Rush Bay (4c)</b><br>Mueller Thoroughbred Stable, Ltd. & Phoebe Mueller          | Rafael Bejarano (118)<br>Tom Amoss                    | Purim*<br>Free Thinking                 | 1:42.52 (firm)<br>2.70-1 (head)                   | Cozzene<br>Kentucky (B.)                  | \$109,000<br>\$67,580—3             |
| <b>2005-June 18 (11th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (8)       | <b>Senor Swinger (5h)</b><br><b>Robert B. and Beverly Lewis</b>                     | Brice Blanc (118)<br><b>Bob Baffert</b>               | G P Fleet*<br>Seeking Answers-IRE       | 1:42.07 (firm)<br>2.10-1 (neck)                   | El Prado-IRE<br>Kentucky (Gr. or R.)      | \$111,200<br>\$68,944—2             |
| <b>2004-June 12 (10th)</b><br>1 1/16 M (T) (7)       | <b>Senor Swinger (4c)</b><br><b>Robert B. and Beverly Lewis</b>                     | Pat Day (117)<br><b>Bob Baffert</b>                   | Hard Buck-BRZ*<br>Majestic Thief        | 1:45.82 (yielding)<br>2.10-1 (1 ¼ lengths)        | El Prado-IRE<br>Kentucky (Gr. or R.)      | \$110,900<br>\$68,758—1             |

\*-Favorite

**Most Wins, Jockey:**

**Most Wins, Trainer:**

**Most Wins, Owner:**

**High \$2 Win:**

**Low \$2 Win:**

**Largest Win Margin:**

**Smallest Win Margin:**

**Largest Field Size:**

**Smallest Field Size:**

**Favorites Record:**

**Favorites who finished off-the-board:**

**Fastest Splits – ¼-mile:**

**Fastest Splits – ½-mile:**

**Disqualifications:**

**Off-tracks:**

2, Corey Lanerie (2012, '17), Brian Hernandez Jr. (2016, '20) and Florent Geroux (2015, '21)

2, Bob Baffert (2004-05), Dale Romans (2012-13), Steve Asmussen (2008, '14) and Ian Wilkes (2016, '18)

2, Robert B. & Beverly Lewis

\$72.00, Siem Riep (2019)

\$3.20, Regally Ready (2014)

9 ½ lengths, Silver Max (2013)

head, Rush Bay over Purim (2006) and Gray's Fable over Hidden Stash (2022)

10 (2008)

4 (2007, '13, '20)

17-7-6-2 (Win=41.2%; ITM=88.2%)

First Premio (4<sup>th</sup> in 2019 at 3.20-1); Green Mask (6<sup>th</sup> in 2016 at 1.00-1)

:23.16, Amun Re (2011)

:46.11, Exchanging Kisses (2011)

none

Off the Turf/Sloppy (2013); Off the Turf/Fast (2020); Yielding (2004); Good (2016-17, '21)